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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,197	02/24/2004	Kenji Ando	0445-0347P	9246
2292 7590 05/07/2007 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER STEPHENS, JACQUELINE F	
			ART UNIT 3761	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 05/07/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/784,197

Applicant(s)

ANDO ET AL.

Examiner

Jacqueline F. Stephens

Art Unit

3761

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 28 February 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).


4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.


Jacqueline F. Stephens
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3761

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's arguments filed 2/28/07 have been fully considered, but are not persuasive. Applicant argues Torigoshi US Patent Application Publication 2004/0030317 fails to teach or suggest that the limitations wherein the portion substantially non-contributory to elastic extensibility and contractibility are cut ends or a fragment or both resulting from cutting the elastic members. Applicant further argues Torigoshi does not disclose the recited method of producing the same. The method of forming the device is not germane to the issue of patentability of the device itself. Torigoshi teaches elastic members 527, 528, and 527a, and specifically in the front of the diaper where the patterned sheet can be observed, the elastic members 527, 527a have cut ends (Figures 32 and 34). If the elastics are not present, they characteristically are not contributing to elastic extensibility and contractibility in that region. Applicant additionally argues it is not clear or clearly disclosed in Torigoshi if its pictorial pattern is clearly seen from an outside point of view. Figure 1 of Torigoshi shows the graphic viewable from the external sheet 120, further Torigoshi teaches the character corresponding to the front and back of a product so as to be easily distinguishable by anyone at a glance, which clearly indicates the graphic is viewable from the outside. Applicant additionally argues the cited modification of Torigoshi does not result in a patterned sheet having a pattern is disposed between the outer sheet and the inner sheet as instantly claimed. As stated in the Final Office Action mailed 11/29/06, Torigoshi discloses a patterned sheet 100 having a pattern disposed between the outer sheet and the inner sheet, which is taught in paragraph 0259. Regarding the total transmittance value, Applicant argues the Examiner has not provided any scientific or technical evidence to show that this feature is a matter of routine skill in the art. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Examiner has relied on Jordan as showing a high light transmittance value is known in the art for an outer cover graphic. Based on this teaching of a high light transmittance value, the examiner maintains that optimizing the opacity of the film, filler material, or density of the material involves routine skill in the art. .